

extending circumferentially from said sidewall for strengthening said sidewall, said annular flange having a first inner diameter, a second inner diameter, and a first thickness, said first inner diameter less than said second inner diameter.

15. An electric motor in accordance with Claim 11 wherein said annular flange second inner diameter greater than said housing sidewall first diameter.

PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING NEW CLAIMS

17. A rotor cup assembly in accordance with Claim 11 wherein said annular flange comprising an edge, said annular flange outwardly flared from said sidewall by an angle (Φ).

18. A rotor cup assembly in accordance with Claim 11 wherein said annular flange provides a smooth tapered surface for pressing an item into said rotor cup.

Remarks

The Office Action mailed July 25, 2002 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof. A submission of marked up paragraphs and Claims is submitted herewith.

Claims 5-18 are pending in this application. Claims 5-16 stand rejected. Claims 1-4 have been cancelled. Claim 17 and 18 are newly added. No additional fee is due for newly added Claims 17 and 18.

The rejection of Claims 8 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 is respectfully traversed. Applicants respectfully submit that one of ordinary skill in the art, after reading the Claims in light of the Figures and the specification, would understand how the annular flange could be machined to remove material to facilitate achieving a desired level of rotor balance. More specifically, Applicants respectfully submit that an artisan of ordinary skill in the art would understand how to impact the rotor balance by removing material from the annular flange. Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request the rejections of Claims 8 and 14 under Section 112 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 5-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Hollenbeck et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,986,379) in view of common knowledge in the art is respectfully traversed.